comprising deriving a plurality of numerical values associated with features appearing on the outline of an object starting from an arbitrary point on the outline and applying a predetermined ordering to said values to arrive at a representation of the outline.--

Claim 15, lines 5-6, replace "any one of claims 1 to 9" with --claim 1--;

lines 7-8, replace "any one of claims 1 to 9" with --claim 1--.

Claim 16, line 3, replace "any one of claims 10 to 12" with --claim 10--.

Claim 18, line 2, replace "any one of claims 1 to 17" with --claim 1--.

Claim 19, line 2, replace "any one of claims 1 to 17" with --claim 1--.

Claim 20, line 2, replace "any one of claims 1 to 17" with --claim 1--.

Claim 21, line 3, replace "any one of claims 1 to 17" with --claim 1--.

## **REMARKS**

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The present preliminary amendment is submitted to place the above-identified application in more proper format under United States practice. By the present preliminary amendment the claims have been amended to no longer recite any multiple dependencies.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier Attorney of Record

Servely Sacher

Registration No. 25,599

Surinder Sachar

Registration No. 34,423

22850

(703) 413-3000

Fax No.: (703) 413-2220

GJM:SNS\la

I:\atty\SNS\203250-pr.wpd